

## SATIRE VII

et spes et ratio studiorum in Caesare tantum;  
 solus enim tristes hac tempestate Camenas  
 respexit, cum iam celebres notique poetae  
 balneolum Gabiis, Romae conducere furnos  
 temptarent, nec foedum alii nec turpe putarent 5  
 praecones fieri, cum desertis Aganippes  
 uallibus esuriens migraret in atria Clio.  
 nam si Pieria quadrans tibi nullus in umbra  
 ostendatur, ames nomen uictumque Machaerae  
 et uendas potius commissa quod auctio uendit 10  
 stantibus, oenophorum, tripedes, armaria, cistas,  
 Alcithoen Pacci, Thebas et Terea Fausti.  
 hoc satius quam si dicas sub iudice ‘uidi’  
 quod non uidisti; faciant equites Asiani,  
 [quamquam et Cappadoces faciant equitesque Bithyni] 15  
 altera quos nudo traducit gallica talo.  
 nemo tamen studiis indignum ferre laborem  
 cogetur posthac, nectit quicumque canoris  
 eloquium uocale modis laurumque momordit.  
 hoc agite, o iuuenes! circumspicit et stimulat uos 20  
 materiamque sibi ducis indulgentia quaerit.  
 si qua aliunde putas rerum expectanda tuarum

3 celebres notique *PAG*: noti celebresque  $\Phi$ : multi celebresque *LZ*

8 umbra *PGU*: arca  $\Phi$

11 tripedes *PFG*: tripodes  $\Phi$

12 Alcithoen *GO*: alcitheon *PS*: alcinoen  $\Phi$ : Halcyonem *C. Valesius* Pacci *PS*:  
 bacchi  $\Phi$

15 *del. Guyet*

16 gallica *PSGU*: gallia  $\Phi\Sigma$

20–21 *damnauit Guyet*

20 uos *PFG*: nos  $\Phi$

22 expectanda  $\Phi$ : spectanda *P*: speranda *Housman*: experanda *Lond.mus.Brit.*  
*Burn.* 192

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The hope and the justification for the life of the mind rests  
solely on Caesar:  
he alone has shown concern for the wretched Muses in these times,  
when by now famous and well-known poets  
would seek to rent a bath-house in Gabii, or bake-houses in Rome  
and others did not think it disgusting or degrading 5  
to become auctioneers, since the vales of Aganippe have been  
abandoned and famished Clio was moving into the salerooms.  
For if not a penny is shown to you in the Pierian shade  
then you have to embrace the name and the lifestyle of Machaera  
and settle for selling whatever the tooth-and-nail auction sells 10  
to its bystanders – winejar, three-legged pieces, cupboards, trunks,  
Paccius' *Alcithoe*, the *Thebans* and *Tereus* of Faustus.  
This is preferable to saying under the eye of the judge 'I saw it'  
about something you did not see; let the Asian knights do that  
[although both Cappadocians and Bithynian knights do it] 15  
who are betrayed by one of their shoes leaving an ankle bare.  
Nobody however will be forced to put up with work which is  
unworthy  
of his intellect in years to come – nobody who weaves a verbal  
utterance  
in melodious metres and who has chewed the laurel.  
To work then, young men! The kindness of our leader is looking  
around and urging 20  
you on, in the hunt for material for his favour.  
If you think you should expect your fortunes can be shored up  
from another source

praesidia atque ideo croceae membrana tabellae  
 impletur, lignorum aliquid posce ocus et quae  
 componis dona Veneris, Telesine, marito, 25  
 aut claude et positos tinea pertunde libellos.  
 frange miser calamum uigilataque proelia dele,  
 qui facis in parua sublimia carmina cella,  
 ut dignus uenias hederis et imagine macra.  
 spes nulla ulterior; didicit iam diues auarus 30  
 tantum admirari, tantum laudare disertos,  
 ut pueri Iunonis auem. sed defluit aetas  
 et pelagi patiens et cassidis atque ligonis.  
 taedia tunc subeunt animos, tunc seque suamque  
 Terpsichoren odit facunda et nuda senectus. 35  
 accipe nunc artes ne quid tibi conferat iste,  
 quem colis et Musarum et Apollinis aede relictas.  
 ipse facit uersus atque uni cedit Homero  
 propter mille annos. tu si dulcedine famae  
 succensus recites, maculosas commodat aedes. 40  
 haec longe ferrata domus seruire iubetur  
 in qua sollicitas imitatur ianua porcas.  
 scit dare libertos extrema in parte sedentes  
 ordinis et magnas comitum disponere uoces;  
 nemo dabit regum quanti subsellia constant 45  
 et quae conducto pendent anabathra tigillo  
 quaeque reportandis posita est orchestra cathedris.  
 nos tamen hoc agimus tenuique in puluere sulcos  
 ducimus et litus sterili uersamus aratro.

23 croceae ... tabellae  $\Phi$ : crocea ... tabellae  $P$ : crocea ... tabella  $F$

24 impletur  $\Phi$ : implentur  $PS\Sigma$

25 componis  $PAGU$ : conscribis  $\Phi$

27 calamum  $P$  *Vat.Reg. 2029*: calamos  $\Phi$

39 tu *Hermann*: et  $P$ : aut  $\Phi$

40 maculosas *Heinrich*: maculosos  $F$ : maculonus  $\Phi$ : maculonius  $PG$

41 haec  $P$ : ac  $\Phi$

42 porcas *Jessen*: portas *codd.*

and that's why the parchment of your yellow page is being filled up,  
 then ask right now for some firewood and donate your  
 compositions to the husband of Venus, Telesinus; 25  
 or else store and lock the books up and get them punched through  
 by a bookworm.

You wretch, snap your pen and destroy those midnight-oil battles;  
 you who create lofty poems in a tiny garret  
 in the hope of coming out worthy of the ivy and a skinny bust.  
 There is no further hope: the rich miser has learned by now 30  
 just to admire, just to praise intellectuals,  
 as kids admire Juno's bird. Meanwhile your time of life,  
 which would be able to stand the sea, the helmet and the mattock,  
 is flowing away.

It's then that boredom invades the heart, then that your old age,  
 eloquent but stripped bare, detests itself and its Muse. 35  
 Listen now to the tricks he uses to avoid giving you anything – that  
 man whom you cultivate, leaving the temple of the Muses  
 and Apollo.

He produces verses himself and only defers to Homer  
 for the sake of the thousand years between them. If you are ablaze  
 for the sweetness  
 of public renown and give a recitation, he lets you have a shoddy  
 house for it. 40

This house, out in the sticks and all chained up, is ordered to be  
 at your service  
 and its door makes the noise of panicking pigs.  
 He knows how to give you freedmen to sit on the ends  
 of the rows and he knows how to put the loud voices of the  
 claque at your disposal;  
 but none of these princes will give you the price of the benches 45  
 and the hanging gallery with its hired scaffolding  
 and the front rows set out with thrones which must be returned  
 after the event.

And yet we carry on doing this, ploughing furrows in the thin dust  
 and turning over the seashore with an unprofitable plough.

nam si discedas, laqueo tenet ambizioso 50  
 [consuetudo mali tenet insanabile multos]  
 scribendi cacoethes et aegro in corde senescit.  
 sed uatem egregium, cui non sit publica uena,  
 qui nihil expositum soleat deducere, nec qui  
 communi feriat carmen triuiale moneta, 55  
 hunc, qualem nequeo monstrare et sentio tantum,  
 anxietate carens animus facit, omnis acerbi  
 impatiens, cupidus siluarum aptusque bibendis  
 fontibus Aonidum. neque enim cantare sub antro  
 Pierio thyrsumque potest contingere maesta 60  
 paupertas atque aeris inops, quo nocte dieque  
 corpus eget: satur est cum dicit Horatius 'euhoe.'  
 quis locus ingenio, nisi cum se carmine solo  
 uexant et dominis Cirrhae Nysaeque feruntur  
 pectora uestra duas non admittentia curas? 65  
 magnae mentis opus nec de lodice paranda  
 attonitae currus et equos faciesque deorum  
 aspicere et qualis Rutulum confundat Erinys.  
 nam si Vergilio puer et tolerabile dasset  
 hospitium, caderent omnes a crinibus hydri, 70  
 surda nihil gemeret graue bucina. poscimus ut sit  
 non minor antiquo Rubrenus Lappa coturno,  
 cuius et alueolos et laenam pignerat Atreus?

50 ambizioso *Braund*: ambiciosi *codd.*: ambitosum *Jahn*

50–51 laqueo ... mali *deleuit Housman*

51 *omisit L, deleuit Jahn*

54 nihil *SΦ*: nil *P*

60 maesta *PAL*; sana *GHKTUΣ*: saeua *FOZ*

63 quis *Φ*: qui *P*

73 alueolos *PFΣ*: albiolos *Φ*

For if you escaped, then a cancer of writing holds you in a  
 binding noose 50  
 [the habit of misfortune holds many men incurably]  
 and grows old in the sick heart.  
 But the poet of genius who does not quarry the common  
 vein of inspiration,  
 who is not in the habit of turning out a commonplace and does not  
 knock out a banal poem from the public mint – 55  
 I cannot point out anyone like this but can only feel his  
 existence – he  
 is made by a mind which has no anxiety and is completely  
 free of all  
 bitterness, a mind which desires the woods and which is fit  
 to drink from  
 the springs of the Muses. For unhappy poverty cannot sing under  
 the shade of  
 the Pierian cave nor touch the thyrsus, since it lacks the money  
 which the body 60  
 needs night and day. Horace is stuffed full of food when he  
 says ‘euhoe’.  
 What scope is there for original genius if your hearts are not  
 troubled  
 by poetry alone, moving to the beat of the masters  
 of Cirrha and Nysa  
 and not giving any room to more than one concern? 65  
 It is the task of a great mind – one which is not distressed  
 about the buying  
 of a blanket – to gaze upon chariots, horses, features of gods  
 and the sort of Fury which confounded the Rutulian.  
 For if Virgil had no slave-boy and no acceptable  
 accommodation, then all the snakes would fall from  
 the Fury’s hair, 70  
 and the trumpet would wail its deep tones unheard.  
 Do we demand  
 that Rubrenus Lappa be no less than the tragedians of old  
 when his *Atreus* has been pawned against his plates  
 and his cloak?

non habet infelix Numitor quod mittat amico,  
 Quintillae quod donet habet, nec defuit illi 75  
 unde emeret multa pascendum carne leonem  
 iam domitum; constat leuiori belua sumptu  
 nimirum et capiunt plus intestina poetae.  
 contentus fama iaceat Lucanus in hortis  
 marmoreis, at Serrano tenuique Saleio 80  
 gloria quantalibet quid erit, si gloria tantum est?  
 curritur ad uocem iucundam et carmen amicae  
 Thebaidos, laetam cum fecit Statius Urbem  
 promisitque diem: tanta dulcedine captos  
 afficit ille animos tantaque libidine uulgi 85  
 auditur. sed cum fregit subsellia uersu  
 esurit, intactam Paridi nisi uendit Agauen.  
 ille et militiae multis largitus honorem  
 semenstri uatum digitos circumligat auro.  
 quod non dant procures, dabit histrio. tu Camerinos 90  
 et Baream, tu nobilium magna atria curas?  
 praefectos Pelopea facit, Philomela tribunos.  
 haud tamen inuideas uati quem pulpita pascunt.  
 quis tibi Maecenas, quis nunc erit aut Proculcius  
 aut Fabius, quis Cotta iterum, quis Lentulus alter? 95  
 tum par ingenio pretium, tunc utile multis  
 pallere et uinum toto nescire Decembri.  
 uester porro labor fecundior, historiarum  
 scriptores? perit hic plus temporis atque olei plus.  
 nullo quippe modo millensima pagina surgit 100

80 at *PS*: et  $\Phi$  saleio *SFGHOZ*: saleno *P*: salino *AKLTUS*

87 uendit *P* $\Phi$ : uendat *AKOT*

88 largitus *GVat.3286*: largitur *P* $\Phi$ :

91 Baream *PSF*: bareas  $\Phi$

93 deleuit *Markland*

96 tum *P*: tunc  $\Phi$

99 perit *PF**G*: petit  $\Phi$

100 nullo quippe modo *PGLOUZ*: namque oblita modo *A*: namque oblita modi  
*FHKT*



Unfortunate Numitor has nothing to send to his client  
 but he has gifts for Quintilla and did not lack the funds 75  
 to buy a lion – previously tamed – which needed feeding with  
 lots of meat; a beast supposedly costs less in outlay  
 and the guts of a poet hold more food.  
 Lucan may be lying in his marbled gardens, content with his  
 reputation,  
 but what will any amount of glory do for Serranus and 80  
 famished Saleius, if glory is all they get?  
 People run to hear the lovely voice and the poetry of his darling  
*Thebaid*, when Statius has made the city happy  
 and fixed a date; he grips their hearts, taken captive by  
 so much sweetness, and is listened to with so much ardent desire 85  
 from the crowd. But when he has brought the house down  
 with his reading  
 he goes hungry if he does not sell his virginal *Agave* to Paris – the  
 man who lavishes military honours on many a man,  
 who puts (for six months' service) the gold ring on poets' fingers.  
 An actor will give what great men do not. Do you  
 cultivate the Camerini 90  
 and Barea, do you seek out the grand entrance-halls of  
 noble men?  
*Pelopea* is what makes men prefects, *Philomela* makes  
 them tribunes.  
 But do not be jealous of a bard who is fed by the stage.  
 Who will be a Maecenas to you, who will now be a Proculeius  
 or a Fabius, who will be a second Cotta or Lentulus reborn? 95  
 In those times the pay matched the talent, in those days many  
 found it  
 useful to go pale and disown wine for the whole of December.  
 Is your hard work then more productive, you writers of  
 histories? More time and midnight oil goes to waste in this  
 enterprise.  
 With no limit applied, the thousandth page rises up 100

omnibus et crescit multa damnosa papyro;  
 sic ingens rerum numerus iubet atque operum lex.  
 quae tamen inde seges? terrae quis fructus apertae?  
 quis dabit historico quantum daret acta legenti?  
 ‘sed genus ignauum, quod lecto gaudet et umbra.’ 105  
 dic igitur quid causidicis ciuilia praestent  
 officia et magno comites in fasce libelli.  
 ipsi magna sonant, sed tum cum creditor audit  
 praecipue, uel si tetigit latus acrior illo  
 qui uenit ad dubium grandi cum codice nomen. 110  
 tunc immensa caui spirant mendacia folles  
 conspuiturque sinus; ueram deprendere messem  
 si libet, hinc centum patrimonia causidicorum,  
 parte alia solum russati pone Lacertae.  
 consedere duces, surgis tu pallidus Ajax 115  
 dicturus dubia pro libertate bubulco  
 iudice. rumpe miser tensum iecur, ut tibi lasso  
 figantur uirides, scararum gloria, palmae.  
 quod uocis pretium? siccus petasunculus et uas  
 pelamydum aut ueteres, Maurorum epimenia, bulbi 120  
 aut uinum Tiberi deuectum, quinque lagonae  
 si quater egisti. si contigit aureus unus,  
 inde cadunt partes ex foedere pragmaticorum.  
 ‘Aemilio dabitur quantum licet, et melius nos  
 egimus.’ huius enim stat currus aeneus, alti 125  
 quadriiuges in uestibulis, atque ipse feroci  
 bellatore sedens curuatum hastile minatur  
 eminus et statua meditatur proelia lusca.

105 lecto *PFGH*: tecto  $\Phi$

106 praestent *PAGU*: praestant  $\Phi\Sigma$

108 tum *PAOU*: tunc  $\Phi$

109 *deleuit Jahn*

114 Lacertae  $\Phi$ : lacernae *PS Arou et fortasse G*

120 aut *PΦ*: et *AKLT*

121 lagonae *PFGH*: lagoenae  $\Phi$

123 ex *PAGLU*: in  $\Phi$

124 licet *PT Arou.*: libet *GLU*: petet  $\Phi$  et *mss.*: at *Ruperti, Cramer*

in every case and grows ruinous with heaps of papyrus.  
The massive number of facts and the rule of the genre  
dictate this.

But what is the harvest of all this? what is the fruit of this  
ploughed field?

Who will give a historian as much as he would give to a man  
reading out the gazette?

‘But they are a lazy breed, enjoying their days on the couch  
in the shade.’ 105

Tell me then what reward barristers get for their civic  
duties, with their briefs going with them in a big bundle.  
They make a big sound, but especially so when a creditor of theirs  
is listening, or if someone who is here with a huge account-book  
to chase up a contested

debt taps them on the flank with still greater urgency. 110

Then his hollow bellows breathe out measureless falsehoods  
and his bosom is spattered; if you wish to uncover the real earnings,  
then put the estates of one hundred barristers on one side  
and on the other the property just of the Lizard dressed in red.

The chiefs have sat down, you get up, a pale-faced Ajax, 115  
to plead for contested liberty before a peasant

judiciary. You poor man, burst your tense liver open just to ensure  
that when you are  
exhausted green palms might be pinned up as the glory of your  
staircase.

What is the price of your voice? A dry little pork shoulder  
and a jar  
of tunny-fish, or else ancient onions – monthly rations for Moors  
– or 120

wine brought down the Tiber, five flagons if you have spoken  
four times. If you do get a single gold coin  
the solicitors take their share of it according to the deal.

‘Aemilius will get as much as is permitted, and yet we pleaded  
better.’ Why? this man has a bronze chariot standing there, a lofty 125  
four-horse team in his entrance-halls, and himself sitting on  
his fierce warhorse, aiming his drooping spear  
from afar and planning his battles as a one-eyed statue.

sic Pedito conturbat, Matho deficit, exitus hic est  
 Tongilii, magno cum rhinocerote lauare 130  
 qui solet et uexat lutulenta balnea turba  
 perque forum iuuenes longo premit assere Maedos  
 empturus pueros, argentum, murrina, uillas;  
 spondet enim Tyrio staltaria purpura filo.  
 [et tamen est illis hoc utile. purpura uendit] 135  
 causidicum uendunt amethystina; conuenit illi  
 et strepitu et facie maioris uiuere census,  
 sed finem impensae non seruat prodiga Roma.  
 fidimus eloquio? Ciceroni nemo ducentos  
 nunc dederit nummos, nisi fulserit anulus ingens. 140  
 respicit haec primum qui litigat, an tibi serui  
 octo, decem comites, an post te sella, togati  
 ante pedes. ideo conducta Paulus agebat  
 sardonyche, atque ideo pluris quam Gallus agebat,  
 quam Basilus. rara in tenui facundia panno. 145  
 quando licet Basilo flentem producere matrem?  
 quis bene dicentem Basilum ferat? accipiat te  
 Gallia uel potius nutricula causidicorum  
 Africa, si placuit mercedem ponere linguae.  
 declamare doces? o ferrea pectora Vetti, 150  
 cum perimit saeuos classis numerosa tyrannos.  
 nam quaecumque sedens modo legerat, haec eadem stans  
 perferet atque eadem cantabit uersibus isdem.  
 occidit miseros crambe repetita magistros.

134 *transposuit post 137 Courtney*

135 *om. U, del. Knoche*

136 *illis P Arou. Mico Sang.: illis Φ*

138 *del. Guyet*

139 *fidimus eloquio PG Arou.: ut redeant ueteres Φ*

142 *post te PGL: poste Arou. Sang.: posite FH: posita Φ*

144 *Gallus PFGHU Arou: Cossus Φ*

146 *producere PAGTU: deducere Φ*

149 *ponere P Arou.: inponere Φ Ant.: poscere Buecheler*

151 *cum mss: cui Jahn*

153 *isdem ΦP: idem AGU*

This is how Pedo goes bankrupt, how Matho fails, this is the  
 end for  
 Tongilius who likes to be washed with a huge rhinoceros-horn, 130  
 who disturbs the baths with his muddy mob and who  
 weighs down his Maedian youths with the long litter-pole  
 through the forum,  
 on his way to buy slave-boys, silver, myrrhine vessels, villas:  
 for the pirate purple with its Tyrian thread stands as his guarantor.  
 [Yet this is also useful for them. Purple sells] 135  
 a barrister, and crimson garb does too. It pays him  
 to live with the racket and the appearance of inflated wealth,  
 but spendthrift Rome sets no limit to his expenditure.  
 Do we trust oratory? Nobody would give even two hundred  
 to Cicero these days – unless he had a massive gleaming ring. 140  
 This is what anyone going to court looks at first – whether you  
 have eight  
 slaves, ten companions, whether you have a litter-chair  
 following you, with  
 toga-clad men walking in front. That is why Paulus used  
 to plead with a rented  
 sardonyx, and that is why he earned more for his pleading  
 than Gallus did,  
 and more than Basilus. Eloquence is not often found  
 in threadbare clothing. 145  
 When may Basilus bring out a weeping mother into court?  
 Who would make do with Basilus for all his fine speaking?  
 Get yourself  
 to Gaul or even better that wet-nurse of barristers  
 Africa, if you have decided to monetise your tongue.  
  
 Do you teach rhetoric? Oh for the iron-clad heart of Vettius 150  
 when his chanting class slays savage tyrants.  
 For whatever the student had just read sitting down, this same  
 stuff he will  
 perform standing up and sing the same stuff in the same lines.  
 The rehashed cabbage murders the wretched teachers.

quis color et quod sit causae genus atque ubi summa 155  
 quaestio, quae ueniant diuersa parte sagittae,  
 nosse uolunt omnes, mercedem soluere nemo.  
 ‘mercedem appellas? quid enim scio?’ ‘culpa docentis  
 scilicet arguitur, quod laeuae parte mamillae  
 nil salit Arcadico iuueni, cuius mihi sexta 160  
 quaque die miserum dirus caput Hannibal implet,  
 quidquid id est de quo deliberat, an petat Urbem  
 a Cannis, an post nimbos et fulmina cautus  
 circumagat madidas a tempestate cohortes.  
 quantum uis stipulare et protinus accipe: quid do 165  
 ut totiens illum pater audiat?’ haec alii sex  
 uel plures uno conclamant ore sophistae  
 et ueras agitant lites raptore relicto;  
 fusa uenena silent, malus ingratusque maritus  
 et quae iam ueteres sanant mortaria caecos. 170  
 ergo sibi dabit ipse rudem, si nostra mouebunt  
 consilia, et uitae diuersum iter ingreditur  
 ad pugnam qui rhetorica descendit ab umbra,  
 summula ne pereat qua uilis tessera uenit  
 frumenti; quippe haec merces lautissima. tempta 175  
 Chrysogonus quanti doceat uel Pollio quanti  
 lautorum pueros, artem scindes Theodori.  
 balnea sescentis et pluris porticus in qua  
 gestetur dominus quotiens pluit. anne serenum  
 expectet spargatque luto iumenta recenti? 180

154 crambe *G*: grambe *FH*: cambre  $\Phi$  *Ant.*: crambre *P Arou.*

156 diuersa *AGLOU*: diuersa *e* uel diuersae *PFHKTZ Arou*  
 parte  $\Phi$ : forte *P Arou*: fronte *Vat.3286 Ant.*

157 uolunt  $\Phi$  *Ant.*: uelunt *P Arou*: uelint *Pithoeus*

159 laeuae *mss*: leue *P Arou*: laeva *AFGHU*: laeua in *KLOTZ*

166 haec *PGU Ant. Arou*: ast haec *FH*: ast  $\Phi$

167 uel *PS Arou*: ut *H*: et  $\Phi$

177 scindes *Jahn*: scindens *PS $\Phi$  $\Sigma$*

180 spargatque *mss.*: spargatue *Heinrich*

What gloss to put on the speech, what the genre of the case is,  
     where is the key 155  
 point, what arrows might come from the other side – they  
 all want to know this, but none of them wants to pay up.  
 ‘You’re asking to be paid? What have I learned?’ ‘I suppose it’s  
     alleged to be  
 the fault of the teacher that in the area of his left breast  
 the bumpkin youth has no pulse; his ‘Hannibal the Dread’ 160  
 fills my poor head every sixth day  
 no matter what he is pondering – whether to go to the city  
 after Cannae, whether after the storm-clouds and thunderbolts  
     he should be cautious  
 and wheel round his troops who are soaked from the storm.  
 Name your fee – as much as you like – and have it at once.  
     What would I give 165  
 for his father to hear him as often as I have?’ This is what  
     another six  
 or more professors shout out with one voice  
 and mount real court-cases, abandoning ‘the rapist’;  
 ‘poured poisons’ are silent, as is the ‘bad thankless husband’  
 and ‘preparations which heal cases of chronic blindness’. 170

He will accordingly take retirement, if our advice convinces  
 him, and will enter upon a different way of life, this man  
 who comes down from the shades of rhetoric to fight it out  
 to ensure that he does not lose the pittance with which the  
     cheap token  
 for corn is bought, since this is the most lavish fee he can  
     expect. Find out 175  
 how much Chrysogonus and Pollio get for teaching the sons  
     of the  
 posh folk and you will then rip up the *Handbook* of Theodorus.  
 Bathrooms cost six hundred thousand – more for the colonnade  
     in which  
 the master may ride whenever it rains. Is he to wait for calm  
 weather or else spatter his animals with fresh mud? 180

hic potius, namque hic munda nitet ungula mulae.  
 parte alia longis Numidarum fulta columnis  
 surgat et argentem rapiat cenatio solem.  
 quanticumque domus, ueniet qui fercula docte  
 componit, ueniet qui pulmentaria condit. 185  
 hos inter sumptus sestertia Quintiliano,  
 ut multum, duo sufficient: res nulla minoris  
 constabit patri quam filius. 'unde igitur tot  
 Quintilianus habet saltus?' exempla nouorum  
 factorum transi. felix et pulcher et acer, 190  
 felix et [sapiens et nobilis et generosus  
 appositam] nigrae lunam subtexit alutae;  
 felix orator quoque maximus et iaculator  
 etsi perfrixit cantat bene. distat enim quae  
 sidera te excipiant modo primos incipientem 195  
 edere uagitus et adhuc a matre rubentem.  
 si Fortuna uolet, fies de rhetore consul;  
 si uolet haec eadem, fiet de consule rhetor.  
 Ventidius quid enim? quid Tullius? anne aliud quam  
 sidus et occulti miranda potentia fati? 200  
 seruis regna dabunt, captiuis fata triumphum.  
 felix ille tamen coruo quoque rarior albo.  
 paenituit multos uanae sterilisque cathedrae,  
 sicut Tharsimachi probat exitus atque Secundi  
 Carrinatis; et hunc inopem uidistis, Athenae, 205  
 nil praeter gelidas ausae conferre cicutas.  
 di maiorum umbris tenuem et sine pondere terram  
 spirantesque crocos et in urna perpetuum uer,

181 *omisit Laur. 34, 39, del. Heinrich*

185 *conponit GT Ant.: componat PΦ condit PΦ Ant.: condat LOU: condet H  
Vat. Urb. 342*

191–2 *sapiens ... appositam del. Reeve*

192 *del. Jahn, Scholte*

194 *etsi Eden: et si mss.: et nisi Courtney: et ni Weidner*

197 *fies Φ Ant. Sang.: fiet P*

204 *tharsimachi P: thresimachi Φ: lisimachi FH. uersum omisit T.*



Preferably ride here, since here the hoof of his clean mule shines.  
 In another part of the house let him have a dining room, shored  
 up on long columns from  
 Numidia, rise up and catch the sun in cold weather.  
 No matter how much the house costs, there will be someone  
 to set out the dishes  
 skilfully, someone will come who flavours the food. 185  
 Amongst this expense two thousand sesterces (a considerable sum)  
 will suffice  
 for Quintilian. Nothing will cost the father less than his  
 son. 'In that case where does  
 Quintilian get so many estates?' Pass over cases of unprecedented  
 fortune. The fortunate man is handsome and energetic, 190  
 the fortunate man is [also wise and noble and well-born] and  
 weaves the moon [attached] to his black shoe;  
 the fortunate man is also the greatest orator and javelin-thrower  
 who sings well even if he has caught a cold. What makes the  
 difference is  
 which stars greet you when you are just starting to utter your 195  
 first wailing and are still glowing red from your mother.  
 If Fortune wants, you will become a consul from being  
 a teacher of rhetoric:  
 in the same way, if she wants, the consul will become a teacher.  
 What about Ventidius? What of Tullius? Does this show  
 anything other than the  
 work of the star and the amazing power of hidden destiny? 200  
 Destiny will give kingship to slaves, triumph to captives.  
 The fortunate man is still rarer than a white crow, however.  
 Many have regretted their unprofitable and barren professor's chair,  
 as proved by the demise of Thrasyarchus and Carrinas  
 Secundus; Athens, you saw this man too in poverty 205  
 and had the nerve to offer him nothing but chilly hemlock.  
 May the gods lay thin and weightless earth on the souls of our  
 ancestors,  
 blooming crocuses and everlasting spring in the burial-urn,

qui praeceptorem sancti uoluere parentis  
 esse loco. metuens uirgae iam grandis Achilles 210  
 cantabat patriis in montibus et cui non tunc  
 eliceret risum citharoedi cauda magistri;  
 sed Rufum atque alios caedit sua quemque iuuentus,  
 Rufum, quem totiens Ciceronem Allobroga dixit.  
 quis gremio Celadi doctique Palaemonis affert 215  
 quantum grammaticus meruit labor? et tamen ex hoc,  
 quodcumque est (minus est autem quam rhetoris aera),  
 discipuli custos praemordet acoenonoetus  
 et qui dispensat frangit sibi. cede, Palaemon,  
 et patere inde aliquid decrescere, non aliter quam 220  
 institor hibernae tegetis niueique cadurci,  
 dummodo non pereat mediae quod noctis ab hora  
 sedisti, qua nemo faber, qua nemo sederet  
 qui docet obliquo lanam deducere ferro,  
 dummodo non pereat totidem olfecisse lucernas 225  
 quot stabant pueri, cum totus decolor esset  
 Flaccus et haereret nigro fuligo Maroni.  
 rara tamen merces quae cognitione tribuni  
 non egeat. sed uos saeuas imponite leges,  
 ut praeceptori uerborum regula constet, 230  
 ut legat historias, auctores nouerit omnes  
 tamquam unguis digitosque suos, ut forte rogatus,  
 dum petit aut thermas aut Phoebi balnea, dicat  
 nutricem Anchisae, nomen patriamque nouercae  
 Anchemoli, dicat quot Acestes uixerit annis, 235

214 quem *PGU Sang.* Σ: qui Φ

215 celadi *PGU*: enceladi Φ *Sang.*

218 acoenonoetus *P Vat. Reg. 2029*: acoenonoetos *G*: acoenonetos *U*

219 frangit *FGHUΣ*: frangat *PA*: franget *KLOT*

223 sederet *P*: sedebit *FGHU*: sedebat Φ

224 docet *mss.*: solet *Scholte*

235 anchemoli *Vat. Reg. 2029*: anchemori *GKU*: archemoli *Paris. 7906*:  
 archemori *PSΦ*

annis *PA*: annus *FH*: annos Φ

since those men wanted the teacher to be in the position  
 of a respected  
 parent. Achilles was by now a grown man but still feared  
 the cane 210  
 as he sang in his father's mountains, and would not even then  
 find that  
 the tail of his lyre-playing master would give him the giggles:  
 but Rufus and other man are each flogged by their own young  
 charges,  
 Rufus, whom they so often called the 'Cicero of the Allobroges.'  
 Who puts into the pocket of Celadus and the learned Palaemon 215  
 as much as their pedagogical labour deserves? Yet out of this,  
 whatever it is (and it is less than the cash of a teacher of rhetoric)  
 the pupil's ungracious bodyguard has a nibble first  
 and the cashier also breaks a bit off for himself. Give in,  
 Palaemon,  
 and just let some deductions be made from it, like the 220  
 street-seller of a winter mat or a snowy mattress,  
 so long as you don't lose payment for sitting from the midnight  
 hour, an hour when no smith would sit, nor anyone  
 who teaches people to card wool with a slanting metal frame:  
 so long as you don't lose the fee for smelling as many lamps 225  
 as there were boys standing there, when your Flaccus was all  
 discoloured and the soot was sticking to your blackened Virgil.  
 It's not often however that pay is given without  
 needing the investigation  
 of a tribune. Yet you (parents) impose harsh conditions on him:  
 the teacher's command of grammar is to be unfailing, 230  
 he should read the stories and know all the authors  
 as he knows his own nails and toes, in case he is asked,  
 while he is making for the hot baths or the bath-house of  
 Phoebus, to name  
 the nurse of Anchises, the name and native-land of the stepmother  
 of Anchemolus, to state how many years Acestes lived 235

quot Siculi Phrygibus uini donauerit urnas.  
 exigite ut mores teneros ceu pollice ducat,  
 ut si quis cera uultum facit; exigite ut sit  
 et pater ipsius coetus, ne turpia ludant,  
 ne faciant uicibus. non est leue tot puerorum  
 obseruare manus oculosque in fine trementes.  
 'haec' inquit 'cura; sed cum se uerterit annus,  
 accipe, uictori populus quod postulat, aurum.'

240

236 siculi *PGL*: sicutis *U*: siculus  $\Phi$

242 cura sed *G*: cura *F*: curas et *PΦ*. uersum omisit *Z*

and how many jars of Sicilian wine he gave to the Phrygians.  
Demand of him that he shape, as if with his thumb, their tender  
characters

like someone making a face out of wax: demand that he be  
the father of the actual gang, to stop them playing dirty games  
and doing it taking turns. It is no easy matter with so many boys 240  
to keep an eye on their hands and their eyes quivering as they  
climax.

‘That’s your job’ says the parent ‘but when the year turns around  
take home the gold which the people demand for a victorious  
fighter.’